

SENATE WATCH

A summary of today's Senate actions; published daily when the Senate is in session.

3/10/04

FINAL PASSAGE

SB 111 (Garcia)

SB 111 would require state parks containing a designated shooting range to post at park entrances the hours of the range on that day.

• SB 111 passed [RC 115: 38 yes, 0 no].

SB 759 (Patterson)

SB 759 would require that boater's safety classes teach information on marine fueling techniques and the results of spillage.

• SB 759 passed [RC 116: 38 yes, 0 no].

SB 778 (Hammerstrom)

SB 778 would allow an officer or employee of a community mental health services program to serve as a public officer or employee of another legal or administrative entity. The bill would ensure consistency between existing statutes.

Support: MI Assn. of CMH Boards, DCH.

• SB 778 passed [RC 118: 38 yes, 0 no].

SB 1013 (SCHAUER)

SB 1013 would shorten the dormancy period to two years before assets are turned over to the State Treasurer in cases in which the demutualization of insurance company occurs. The bill would increase state revenues by approximately \$15 million in both 2003-04 and 2004-05.

- SWITALSKI 1 (1 amend) was withdrawn.
- SB 1013 passed [RC 129: 38 yes, 0 no].

SB 1014 (EMERSON)

SB 1014 would increase the amount of money from the Agricultural Preservation Fund that may be spent annually for administrative costs. The bill would raise the administrative cap from \$700,000 to \$900,000 annually.

• SB 1014 passed [RC 119: 38 yes, 0 no].

SB 1015 (CHERRY)

SB 1015 would allow, for fiscal year 2003-04 only, a payment of \$12 million for the rent (debt service) to the State Building Authority (SBA) for payment on the bonds used to finance the Michigan Public Safety Communications System (MPSCS) project from the Commercial Mobile Radio System (CMRS) emergency telephone fund.

• SB 1015 passed [RC 120: 37 yes, 1 no (Patterson)].

SB 1016 (EMERSON)

Under current law, money in the Teacher-Administrator Preparation and Certification Fund may be spent only for the operation of two items, the teacher and administrator preparation and certification programs. Under SB 1016, the Fund also could be used for teacher and administrator professional development and other quality-related activities. The bill also would transfer \$1,000,000 from this restricted fund to the General Fund in the current fiscal year, 2003-04.

• SB 1016 passed [RC 121: 37 yes, 1 no (Cassis)].

SB 1017 (EMERSON) SB 1018 (EMERSON)

SBs 1017-18 would transfer the responsibility for the administration of the driver education program from the Department of Education to the Department of State. The bills also would eliminate the Driver Education Fund, redirect funding from the Driver Education Fund to the Traffic Law Enforcement and Safety Fund, and eliminate driver education grants.

- SB 1017 passed [RC 122: 38 yes, 0 no].
- SB 1018 passed [RC 123: 38 yes, 0 no].

SB 1019 (EMERSON)

SB 1019 would clarify the distribution of payments to local units given the appropriation reductions in Executive Order 2003-23, which reduced the revenue sharing appropriation for 2003-04 by \$72 million.

• SB 1017 passed [RC 124: 38 yes, 0 no].

SB 1020 (Johnson)

SB 1020 would make Merit Award scholarships to students payable in the State fiscal year that begins after the beginning of the academic year for which the student is eligible. For example, for a qualified student graduating in June 2004 who plans to attend college this fall (which is academic year 2004-05), payments would be made to the selected college during the State's fiscal year 2004-05, which begins on October 1, 2004. If the

amendments to the Act are not adopted, the State will not be able to save an estimated \$63 million in 2003-04 and an estimated \$63 million in 2004-05.

• SB 1020 passed [RC 125: 38 yes, 0 no].

SB 1021 (Brown)

SB 1021 would allow the banked leave time and furlough hours for State Police employees to count as full credited service for the purpose of determining an employee's retirement benefit.

• SB 1017 passed [RC 126: 38 yes, 0 no].

HB 5266 (CONDINO)

HB 5266 would allow the banked leave time and furlough hours for state employees to count as full credited service for the purpose of determining an employee's retirement benefit.

• HB 5266 passed with IE [RC 127: 38 yes, 0 no].

HB 5279 (ACCAVITTI)

HB 5279 would allow the banked leave time and furlough hours for State Police employees to count as full credited service for the purpose of determining an employee's retirement benefit.

- CLARKE 1 (S-1) was adopted [no RC].
- HB 5279 passed with IE [RC 128: 37 yes, 0 no].

HB 4352 (Shackleton)

HB 4352 would prohibit a snowmobile headlight from being covered with a lens cap of any color.

• HB 4352 passed with IE [RC 117: 38 yes, 0 no].

HB 4871 (JAMNICK)

HB 4871 would increase the taxable court costs in various landlord-tenant civil actions. These increases are permissive, but they raise the maximum amount as follows: 1) motion that results in dismissal or judgment from \$20 to \$75; 2) default judgment from \$15 to \$75; 3) trial for a claim for possession only from \$20 to \$150; 4) trial for a claim for money judgment only from \$20 to \$150; 5) trial for a claim of possession/money judgment from \$30 to \$150.

• HB 4871 passed with IE [RC 114: 23 yes, 15 no].